Setting up of credit Body for Self-employed Women

*10. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: SHRI KAILA'SH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased . to refer the" reply of unstarred question 1003 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether Government have since Examined the report of the National Commission on Self-Employed Women for the setting up of an exclusive credit body for the' poor and self-employed women, which may be effectively linked with voluntary agenices;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to implement the recommendation and with what results; and

(c) what has been the State-wise response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) The recommendation of the National Commission on Self-employed Women, regarding the setting up of an exclusive credit body for poor and self-employed women has been examined.

(b) It was felt that such an organisation will not reach the large number of pqor and needy women all over the country requiring credit facilities without an extensive infrastructure which would be unwieldly and expensive. It was, therefore, considered better to motivate and sensitise the existing banking system to become more responsive to women's needs by opening special centres, branches etc. to attend to their needs.

(c) The question does not arise.

Supply of Arms from USA to Pakistan

•11. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL; SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bush administration has notified U. S. Congress of its plans to sell both F-16s and it's best front-line tank, the M-1A1 to Pakistan, if so, what steps are being taken by Government in this regard; whether the matter has been taken up with U. S. Government, if so, what is their response; and

(b) whether Pakistan has asked U. S. for 60 more F-16 fighters, if so, whether the issue has been discussed with Pak Government to convey India's concern about its impact on Indo-Pak relations,?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K. TEWARI): (a) No notification has so far been made by the Bush Administration on arms supply to Pakistan. Pakistan's pending demands were listed by the earlier Administration on which the present Administration is to take a decision. However, the Government have already conveyed its concern to the US over the further supply of F-16s to Pakistan. The US Government have stated that no decision has so far been taken in this regard and that such supplies involve lengthy procedures.

(b) Such a request has been made. The Government of Pakistan are aware of our concerns in this regard.

Declaration of Rivers Godavari and Krishna as National Waterways

•12. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 15 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd November, 1988 and state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to speed up the hydrog-